

By: Price

H.B. No. 1488

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to eligibility requirements for repayment assistance for certain mental health professional education loans.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 61.603(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) To be eligible to receive repayment assistance under this subchapter, a mental health professional must:

(1) apply to the board;

(2) have completed ~~one~~ two, three, four, or five consecutive years of practice in a mental health professional shortage area designated by the Department of State Health Services; and

(3) provide mental health services in this state to:

(A) recipients under the medical assistance program authorized by Chapter 32, Human Resources Code;

(B) enrollees under the child health plan program authorized by Chapter 62, Health and Safety Code; or

(C) persons committed to a secure correctional facility operated by or under contract with the Texas Juvenile Justice Department or persons confined in a secure correctional facility operated by or under contract with any division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act to Section

1 61.603, Education Code, applies only to eligibility for loan
2 repayment assistance under Subchapter K, Chapter 61, Education
3 Code, on the basis of an application submitted on or after September
4 1, 2017. Eligibility on the basis of an application submitted
5 before September 1, 2017, is covered by the law in effect at the
6 time the application was submitted, and the former law is continued
7 in effect for that purpose.

8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.